



Kobe City University of Foreign Studies

University Guidebook



Kobe City University of Foreign Studies

9-1 Gakuen Higashimachi, Nishi-ku, Kobe 651-2187, Japan
<https://www.kobe-cufs.ac.jp/english/index.html>



Location



Kobe City University of Foreign Studies is located in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan.

Stretching out under the gaze of the scenic Rokko mountain range along a picturesque shoreline overlooking Osaka Bay and the historic Inland Sea, the City of Kobe has a long and colorful history dating back more than 1,200 years. After the Meiji Restoration in 1868, when Japan opened its doors to the West, Kobe rapidly became a key trading center for foreign merchants and tradesmen and acquired a cosmopolitan spirit of international friendship commensurate with the people's traditional deep-rooted liberalism and intellectual curiosity. Even now, Kobe is a major international center of economic, cultural and academic activity.

Kobe is a beautiful port town with a mild climate and rich natural environment, and still maintains a treasure house of proud cultural assets.



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About KCUFS



Kobe City University of Foreign Studies is a historical university established in 1946. The university opened in response to Kobe residents' desire for university education focused on practical education and theoretical research on foreign languages and international culture. We gather talented students from around Japan to develop their capacity to thrive internationally. By widely sharing the outstanding results of our education and research, we fulfill the role of "knowledge base" for the local community and contribute to its social development and growth of industry. The university helps improve higher education and academic research worldwide and increases the appeal of Kobe as an international city.



To fulfill our mission as a public university, we strive to provide inclusive educational opportunities with no social inequality. The current university enrollment is approximately 2,000, and we have about 80 excellent full-time faculty members. The University actively supports student exchange programs so students can develop not only their language skills, but also a broad international perspective, through exchange agreements with universities and institutions of all over the world.

Origin



1946

Partner universities
and Institutions



48
(As of April, 2024)

International Outlook



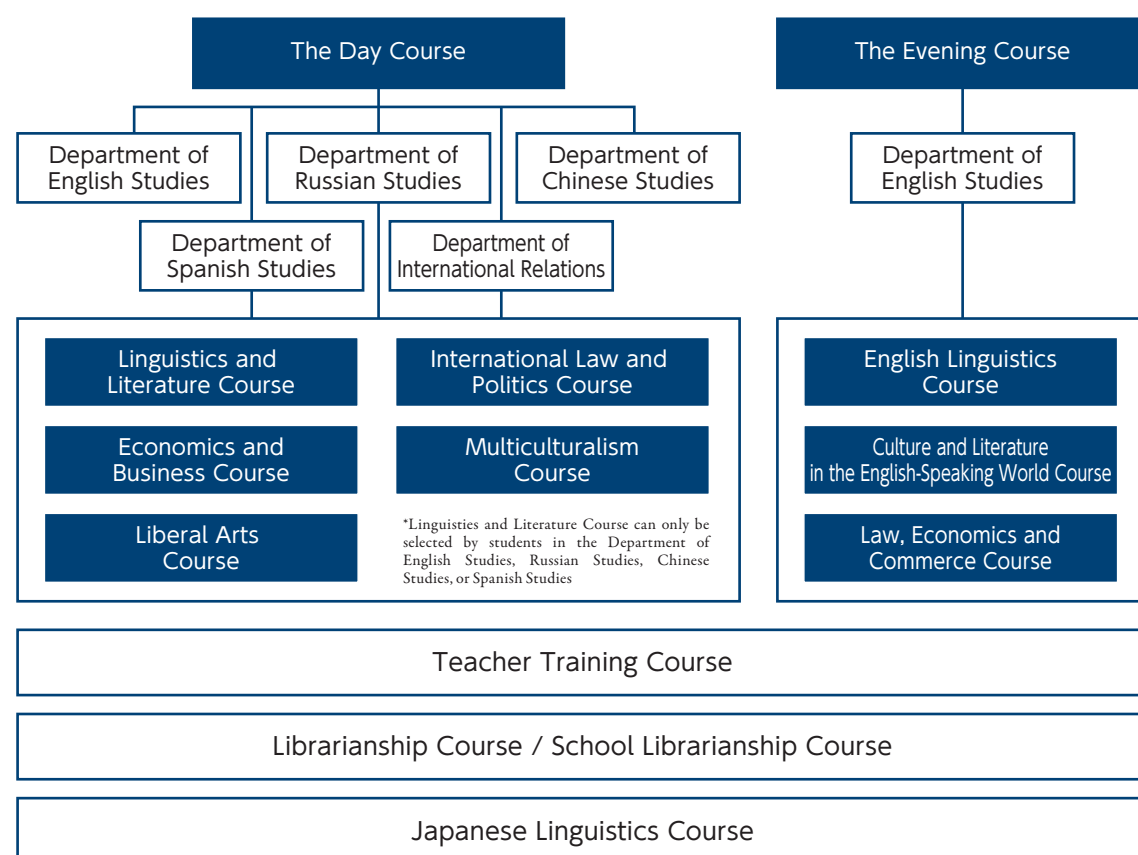
TOP 3 in
Japan public university
(THE Japan university rankings 2023)

Undergraduate



Philosophy and Educational Goals

Kobe City University of Foreign Studies has the aim of cultivating the "active cosmopolitan" who can participate in various disciplines, including business, diplomacy and education by utilizing the advanced foreign languages skills which are needed to effectively function in an international society. Additionally, our students will be educated with the skills and knowledge to make capable, competent, and flexible decisions. Based on this educational philosophy, we set the goal of enabling students to master more than two foreign languages in order to adapt to international society, which is always changing. By promoting this philosophy and these goals, we hope that students will not only maintain an interest in their own language and culture, but also that they will become cosmopolitan citizens.



The university has the Day Course and the Evening Course in Faculty of Foreign Studies. The Day Course has five departments: English Studies, Russian Studies, Chinese Studies, Spanish Studies, and International Relations. The Evening Course has the Department of English Studies. In the department of English Studies Day Course, Russian Studies, Chinese Studies, and Spanish Studies, students acquire in-depth knowledge and practical proficiency in Major Language and learn a broad range of topics about the regions where the language is used, including culture, society, law, and economy. In the Department of International Relations, Major Language is English, and students learn about international affairs and foreign politics, economics, and culture. The Department of English Studies Evening Course is provided as a program that can be taken in the evening but has a similarly rich curriculum to the Day Course.



In order to cultivate "active cosmopolitan", our university emphasizes not only Language education, but also special education such as literature, international relations, law, economics, and business administration. Students select the course they wish to study and develop in-depth expertise.



Graduate School



Educational Philosophy

- To Cultivate Researchers Who Are at the Forefront of the Arts and Social Sciences
- To Foster Human Resources with an Extended Range of International Perspectives and Superior Language Proficiency
- To Provide Advanced Professional Education for Adult Learners
- To Promote Graduate Education Open to the World and International Academic Exchange

Research Institute of Foreign Studies

Doctoral Program

Cross-Cultural Interaction

Master's Program

English Studies

Russian Studies

Chinese Studies

Spanish Studies

International Relations

Japanese and Asian Languages and Cultures

English Language Education and Research

Linguistics Course

Cultural Studies Course

Social Studies Course

Master's Program



The Master's Program aims to train future researchers, educators, and other professionals who hope to work in a professional field by making use of their high-level knowledge. Students will master their field of study with a broad outlook and flexible thinking to achieve this goal.

In the Master's Program, fields of study include English Studies, Russian Studies, Chinese Studies, Spanish Studies, International Relations, and Japanese and Asian Languages and Cultures. The English Language Education and Research Course targets incumbent teachers.

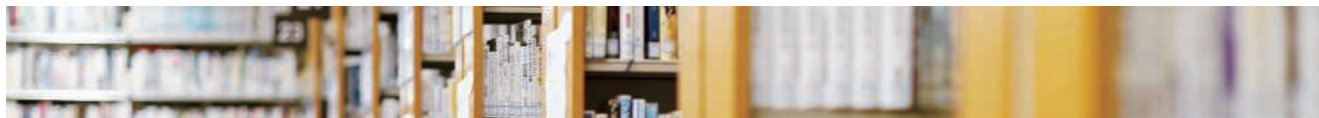


Doctoral Program



The Doctoral Program consists of three courses: the Linguistics Course, the Cultural Studies Course and the Social Studies Course. Students study the interchange, contact, friction and coexistence of cultures, all common to their fields of study, while they are also engaged in research in their respective areas of specialization. This curriculum gives students the opportunity to be original and creative, and it aims to foster those who can reshape conventional and closed fields of study into highly interdisciplinary new ones.





International Research Student Program



International Research Student is those who conducts research in a specific subject under the supervision of a research advisor.

Research Period is one academic year. However, if an international research student wishes to continue one's research as an international research student, research period may be extended for one more year.

Please note that international research students will not receive credits or a degree.



Japanese Language Program



International students enrolled in undergraduate/graduate courses from partner universities can apply to the Japanese Language Program (JLP).

Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Recipients (Japanese Studies Students) recommended by a Japanese embassy abroad are also accepted into our Japanese Language Program (JLP).

The program offers small size classes in order to improve students' Japanese language abilities effectively and students will be divided into small groups based on their Japanese language proficiency. Additionally, international students of Japanese Language Program (JLP) can take regular undergraduate course subjects alongside with regular KCUFS students to learn more about Japanese culture and society.



Campus Map

Cross the street at the traffic light in front of Kobe Municipal Subway Gakuen-Toshi Station and you will find a gate without a door. The slope towards the university is lined on both sides with seasonal flowers and camphor trees offering gentle shade, creating a rich green and tranquil environment.



1 Library

The library has about 410,000 volumes, roughly half of which are in foreign languages with a focus on English, Russian, Chinese, and Spanish.

2 Research Center

In addition to faculty laboratories, the building has the International Office and C³ Space on the first floor. The International Office offers support for study abroad, including study abroad consultations and provides materials for international exchange. The C³ Space routinely holds networking events with international students.

3 Collaborative Research Center

AV Classroom A classroom equipped with a Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) function can be used.

Applied Audiovisual Classroom This classroom is equipped for meetings and can be used to practice simultaneous and consecutive interpretation. It can also be used for mock international conferences and to practice debate and is a distinctive classroom.

4 Academic Building

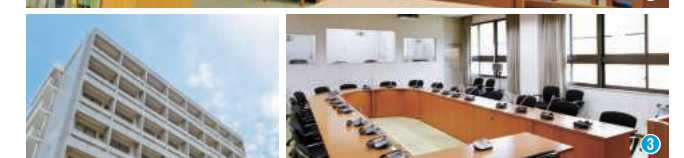
These are classrooms that are generally for classes of up to 50 students to implement the university's small class size curriculum.

5 Academic Building 2

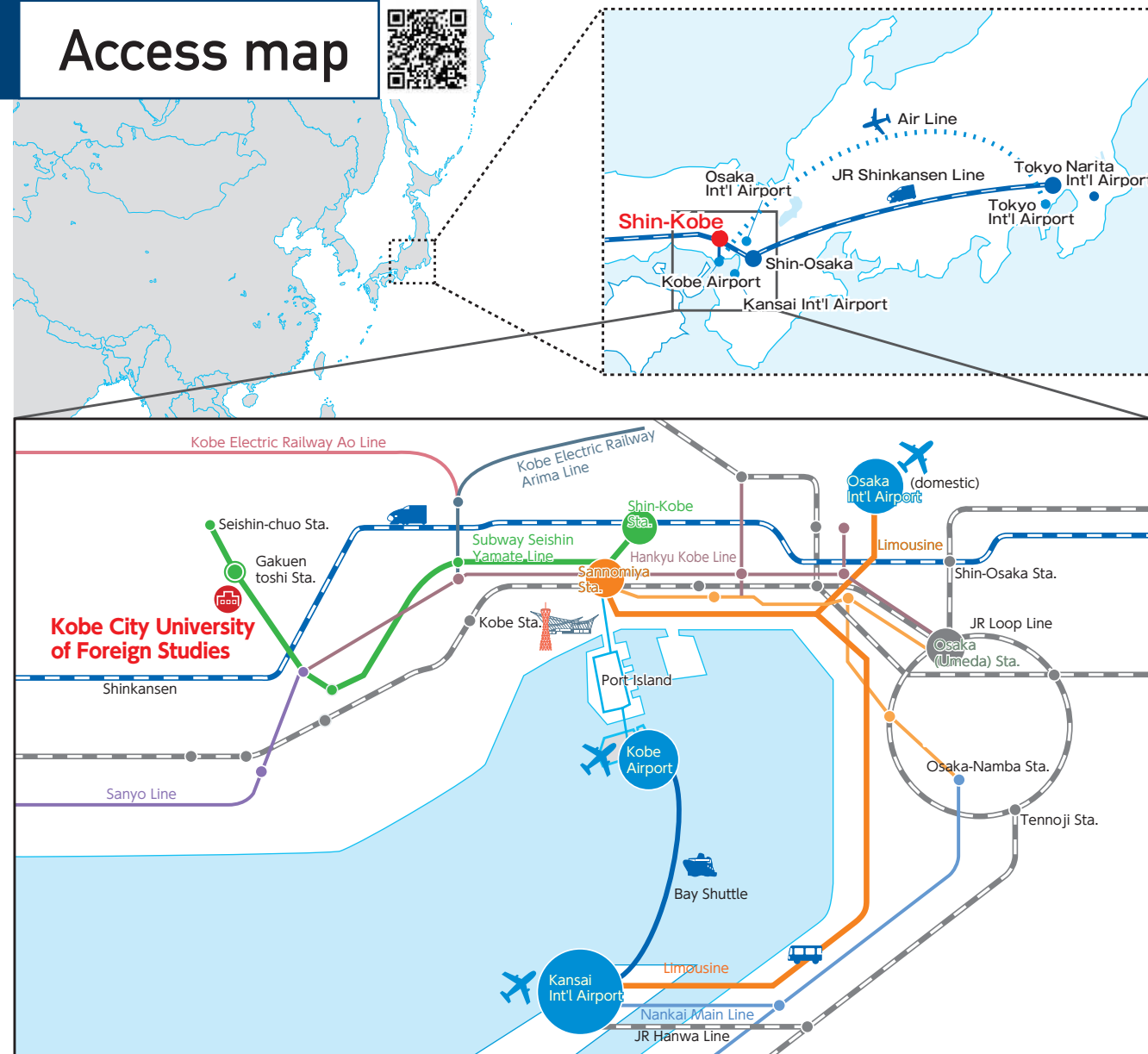
This building has a large classroom for classes of a hundred or more students and a classroom that can be used for active learning. On the first floor, there is a Student Commons for multipurpose use, a volunteer corner, and a career support center.

6 Campus Center

This building is a base for various extracurricular activities, with a cafeteria and university co-op, and a small hall, student council meeting room, Japanese-style room, and tearoom on the second floor.



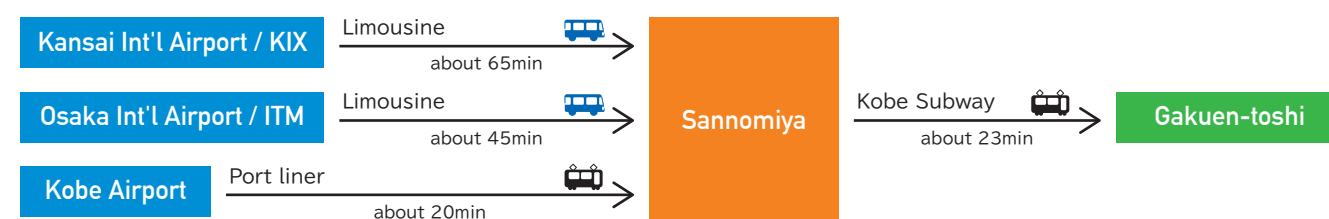
Access map



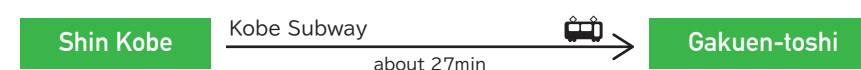
From Osaka



Airplane



Shinkansen



Chronology



- 1946 Kobe Municipal College of Foreign Affairs established
- 1949 Kobe City University of Foreign Studies established; replaces former College of Foreign Affairs. Departments of English Studies, Russian Studies, and Chinese Studies set up in Faculty of Foreign Studies
- 1951 The Research Institute of Foreign Studies established
- 1953 Department of English Studies Evening Course set up in Faculty of Foreign Studies
- 1962 Department of Spanish Studies set up in Faculty of Foreign Studies
- 1967 English Studies, Russian Studies, Chinese Studies, and Spanish Studies set up in Master's Program
- 1986 The University relocates to a new campus in "Academic Town; GAKUEN-TOSHI" in the northwestern part of Kobe.
- 1987 Department of International Relations set up in Faculty of Foreign Studies
- 1991 Japanese Language and Cultural Studies and International Relations set up in Master's Program (In 1999, the former was renamed Division of Japanese and Asian Languages and Cultural Studies.)
- 1996 Cross-Cultural Interaction set up in Doctoral Program
- 1999 Credit-exchange classes offered at five nearby universities and one college of technology
- 2004 English Language Education and Research set up in Master's Program
- 2007 Transition to a public university corporation
- 2021 New curriculum starts (reorganization of undergraduate courses)

